REMARKS

The Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for thoroughly reviewing and considering the pending application. The Office Action dated December 1, 2004 has been received and carefully reviewed. Claims 1, 3, 4 and 5 have been amended. New claims 6-15 have been added. Claims 1-15 are currently pending. The Applicant respectfully requests reexamination and reconsideration.

Initially, the Applicant wishes to thank Examiner Gravini for speaking with the Applicant's representative on December 28, 2004.

The December 1, 2004 Office Action rejected claims 1, 2 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,158,148 to *Krausch* (hereinafter "*Krausch*"). The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

As required in Chapter 2131 of the M.P.E.P., in order to anticipate a claim under 35 U.S.C. §102, "the reference must teach every element of the claim." The Applicant respectfully submits that *Krausch* does not teach every element recited in claim 1. In particular, claim 1 recites a laundry dryer control method comprising, for example, "calculating a drying time based on temperature variation rate; and performing the drying procedure for the calculated drying time."

In rejecting the claims, the Office Action states "more broadly construing *Krausch* at column 5, lines 44-62, it can be implicitly taught that the disclosed timer can be used to calculate an overall drying time based on the measured variation rate from the temperature sensors." See Office Action at page 3.

During the Examiner Interview, the Examiner indicated that what he meant by his statement on page 3 was that *Krausch* inherently teaches a timer that **calculates** drying time based on the measured variation rate from temperature sensors. However, the timer does not

calculate anything and, it most certainly does not calculate anything based on temperature variation rates, or any other value(s), measured or calculated. The timer simply keeps track of time for a predetermined amount of time. *See e.g.*, col. 5, ll. 52-61. Accordingly, *Krausch* cannot and does not expressly, implicitly or inherently disclose calculating a drying time based on temperature variation rate, as expressly required in claim 1. It should be noted that the Examiner agreed during the December 28, 2004 telephone call that *Krausch* does not expressly or inherently disclose this feature.

As such, the Applicant respectfully submits that *Krausch* fails to disclose each and every element recited in claim 1, as required under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), and requests that the rejection be withdrawn. For at least the same reasons, the Applicant submits that claims 2 and 4, which depend from claim 1, are also allowable over *Krausch*.

In addition, the Office Action rejected claims 3 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Krausch*. The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

As required in Chapter 2143.03 of the M.P.E.P., in order to "establish *prima facie* obviousness of the claimed invention, all the limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art." As previously discussed, *Krausch* fails to disclose each and every element recited in claim 1, from which claims 3 and 5 depend. Therefore, the Applicant submits that *Krausch* fails to teach or suggest all the elements recited in claims 3 and 5. Accordingly, the Applicant submits that claims 3 and 5 are patentable over *Krausch* under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) and requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

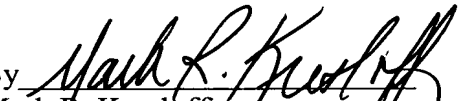
The application is in a condition for allowance and favorable action is respectfully solicited. If for any reason the Examiner believes a conversation with the Applicant's representative would facilitate the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to

contact the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: June 1, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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